



# southern california dx club

May 2005



## Soap Box— Words from our President



It's a week after the convention and Linda and I just got home from a short vacation and I still have not fully recovered my voice. What a time we had, I have not laughed so much in years. We really had a great time especially at the "LIDS" hospitality suite.

Congratulations to Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ on being honored as DXer of the Year for 2004. Jim is a very deserving recipient of this award and wish I would have had more time to elaborate on all that he has accomplished and done for our hobby and the club but I was a little pressed for time at the banquet. Jim has been a VE since 1984, he is a DXCC card checker, handles the L's for the 6<sup>th</sup> district incoming bureau and is an Official Observer (OO). Any one of which would be enough to keep most of us busy. He also has the usual awards DXCC, 5-BWAZ, IOTA, 5-BWAC, 5-BWAS etc. He has also spent six years on the board of the SCDXC including Secretary, Vice President and President. He was also the first person to come over to me when I was a new member attending my first meeting and make me feel welcome in a room full of strangers.

Congratulations also go to Bob Harrington, AA6PW on winning the Clipperton Award. Bob is active in several clubs as well as an avid DXer. Bob had an outstanding 145 confirmed contact in his rookie year with the club which is quite an accomplishment considering where we are in the cycle. I wonder who will win next year? Maybe the second YL ever to win? If you're a new member start getting those contacts confirmed now. It is never to early.

Speaking of things that it is never too early to do, Visalia 2006 is just around the corner. Well not

*(Continued on page 3)*

## de the Veep

*Visalia, 2005....Bubbas still smiling.*

I had the best time. I am sure the stories will be flying for a while. A few highlights from me. Otto, W5YU and his XLY Dorothy.... what nice people! Our friendship started 50 years to late. Phil, W6 Uncle Chicken... the funniest guy on the air for sure in the mornings on 75m.

My cheeks are still sore from laughing. Don, VK3DZM, straight from the outback with his sense of humor intact, ready for his multi-continent walk about. Leaving from Visalia for a drive across the country then on to Europe. Elvin, JA3CZY with his perpetual smile and infectious laugh. Bill, WA5VGI with the ups and downs of big antennas. Bob Allphin, K4UEE, the leader of the twice failed 3Y0X. A first class guy! He filled the room for his presentation on Saturday afternoon and also threw in a few good words about our own N6OX, good job Buckwheat. Rich, K7ZV.....a blur, he was always going or coming, but had a nice smile and a wave on the way by. someday I still hope to visit with him. N6OX was chauffeured up from Rainbow by Carl and his girlfriend. I do really think he had a good time. I think the trip to YT6A cheered him up and got him back on tract. Next stop? Japan with the family ( Elvin get ready) I am sure I will be working Bob San.

Saturday night was a long night for a Bubba that goes to bed early. Jim, N6DHz, asked me to present the Clipperton Award so there was no leaving for me. I was thrilled to give Bob, AA6PW, the plaque and to have stayed awake long enough to do it. Also, congratulations to Jim Zimmerman for the DXer of the year award. Next years convention is already starting for some of us and once more I will be looking forward to working with the committee and help make 2006 Visalia DX Convention a fun time for all. Bubbas done.....73s and good Dx



## Next General Meeting

The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held May 12, 2005 at Syd Kronenthal Park in Culver City. The park is located 4 blocks west of La Cienega Blvd. and 2 blocks south of Washington Blvd. From the 10 Freeway exit La Cienega south to Washington Blvd. Turn right (west) 4 blocks to McManus Ave (it's La Cienega Ave to the right, McManus to the left). Turn left (south) 2 blocks to the Park. The street dead-ends at the parking lot. Please do not park in the school lot.

Our next meeting will feature Phoenixius. ARRL Los Angeles section Manager and Ira with Visalia photos

*See ya there!*



## the secretary's ramblings

So what does a guy have to say when he's not been there? For one thing, I have a friend in Bubba. He stood in my shoes and sent a very nice article to the Newsletter in April. THANKS BUBBA.

I was supposed to have Hip replacement surgery in March but my cardiologist had some other ideas. Do a stress test he says. Not enough info. OK do an angiogram. Still not enough info. Maybe better install a stent. Back to the Angio lab. No can do. OK, so what does he do? He installs an automatic pacemaker with a defibrillator. By this time I figure out he doesn't think I should do the hip thing just now.

But I was given a chance to feel the defib pulse. On your --- it knocks you and I was on medication and partly sedated. Oh well I must say that this thing in me is working. I get a much stronger pump now and my color is better. This is more than likely much more than you care to hear but I had to write something.

Now, about the Convention. I missed it. So what did I hear? The Wagonwheel had a couple of groups, Thursday and Friday. Larry and I started this Wagonwheel thing a few years ago and it has grown to two groups and two nights. If you're interested in checking the great steaks come with us next year. I'll be there, probably still using the cane. (No burn party yet).

I guess we are spoiled about Visalia and we should be as we put on a great show. I know some folks are not happy about what the Northern Club does, but it brings in a crowd. This is where we can do much for the meet. Talk about how good it will be next year.

Well I better end this thing, especially since I didn't have much to say.

73 Steve, w6nrq

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## Soap Box —

de The Prezzzzz

(Continued from page 2)

really if your just an attendee but if you will be helping the committee it is time to start thinking of what needs to be done. If you are interested in helping with the 2006 convention please send an e-mail to [visalia@scdxc.org](mailto:visalia@scdxc.org) and get your name on the list. We will probably be having a meeting in late September to get things going.

The Holiday Inn will start accepting reservations on May 4, 2005 for the 2006 convention at 9:00am.

I want to thank the Northern California DX Club, The Central Arizona DX Association and the Mother Load DX/Contest Club for all the hard work and effort they put in to the 2005 convention.

The picnic will be June 18<sup>th</sup> at Woodley Park the same location as last year. Please see the web page

for further details. We are still looking for someone to volunteer to help with the picnic so if you are willing please contact me at [n6dhz@scdxc.org](mailto:n6dhz@scdxc.org)

Last, last thing I got a note from the web master and he has added pictures to the convention web site of the 2003, 2004 and 2005 convention. He has also added pictures of the picnic and the Holiday Party

See everyone at the May meeting.

73 DE Jim, N6DHZ

## Propagation May 2005

by Shel, W6EL



These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month.

Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 83,

corresponding to a sunspot number of 28, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed. Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.

Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

3A Monaco - 5/4 to 5/8 - Beam 36 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/6) 0422/1833

40: Around 0330.

20: 0500-0700 and 0030-0130.

ZA Albania - 5/3 to 5/10 - Beam 30 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/7) 0336/1738

20: 0400-0730 and 2300-2400.

JD1 Ogasawara - 5/5 to 5/8 - Beam 297 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/7) 1954/0901

40: 0930-1300.

20: 0700-1000 and 1330-1530.

15: 0430-0500 and 2130-0230.

SV5 Dodecanese - 5/2 to 5/16 - Beam 27 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/9) 0314/1700

20: 0300-0630 and 2330-2400.

YJ Vanuatu - 5/2 to 5/21 - Beam 246 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/12) 1908/0621

80: 0900-1230.

40: 0700-1300.

20: 0430-1430.

15: 1900-0800.

MU Guernsey - 5/14 to 5/15 - Beam 36 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/15) 0432/1938

40: Around 0330.

20: 0000-0230.

HB0 Liechtenstein - 5/14 to 5/21 - Beam 32 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 5/18) 0350/1847

20: 0030-0230.

### MARK YOUR CALANDER

2006 International DX Convention

April 21, 22 & 23 2006

Visalia, Ca

The Holiday Inn will start accepting reservations on May 9,  
2005 at 9:00am.

The telephone number for the hotel is 559-651-5000

The convention will be run by the So Cal DX Club

If you want to be on the Convention Committee send an email to [visalia@scdxc.org](mailto:visalia@scdxc.org)



## IOTA Activity.....by Fred N6AWD



The 10<sup>th</sup> annual IOTA dinner at the DX Convention was a great success with 93 in attendance. Presentations were made by Martin G3ZAY [ RSGB committee chairman for the IOTA program ]. Presentations were also made for several IOTA expeditions, namely XF1K [ NA-164 AND NA-165 ], K9AJ [ CE8A operation from SA-094 ] AND AB5EB [ NA-044 Battle island in Labrador



Canada ].

The 2005 annual listing of member's achievements along with the honor roll will be published within the next few weeks on the IOTA manager's web page [ <http://www.g3kma.dsl.pipex.com/index.shtml> ]. This web site also contains most of the information found in the directory and frequent announcements are posted with up to date activities, which have been approved and validated. There are also eleven links to IOTA related web sites on G3KMA's web site.

If you are just getting started with the IOTA program I suggest you check out the check point for the sixth call area, namely Don W9DC whose web site is at [ [www.w9dc.com](http://www.w9dc.com) ].

If you are planning to be active this summer from an island keep in mind the IOTA contest is the last weekend of July running for 24 hours starting at 1200 utc on Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Rules for the contest can be found on the RSGB IOTA web site. The contest usually produces several hundred islands activations and it is a great way to increase your achievement from home.

**The PICNIC IS COM-  
ING!  
Raffle and Food.  
June 18 is the date.**

### NEEDED

The SCDXC Newsletter needs your inputs. Articles of interest to hams are wanted. We pay the highest rates for accepted articles. Photos are welcome. Send your stuff to the editor, K6EXO, at [harv@scdxc.org](mailto:harv@scdxc.org)

### ARRL Changes DXCC Rules

The ARRL has redefined what constitutes a "country" for the purposes of its DXCC award program. In order to be considered a "political entity," a place must now either be a member state of the United Nations or have a call sign prefix block assigned to it by the International Telecommunications Union. Dropped from the list is existence by virtue of having your own ham society that's a member of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). The League says the change was made because "the rule ... has had unforeseen consequences in creating an incentive for the creation of proposed IARU societies that do not further the objectives of the IARU..." That provision had been added in 1998, and four "entities" had qualified for inclusion as "DXCC countries" under it. The ARRL says the change will not affect their status.

### OPEN HOUSE AT JPL - MAY 14 & 15

Mark your calendars. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory ("JPL") in Pasadena is holding Open House on Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15, 2005. There will be a wealth of displays, and scientists and engineers will be on hand to answer your questions about spacecraft in general.

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/psd/oh.cfm>



Monster 40 Meter Steppir at 107 feet...

# International DX Convention April 15-17 Visalia, CA



**Banquet - Int'l DX Convention  
Visalia, California... April 15-17, 2005...**





Don N6IC Steve K6GH Jim W6OUL Tom N6JOJ Fred W6UA Scott N6LVD  
 Bob W6RUJ Bud K6XJ Spud K6KH Gene WB6DBK Erich W6LKK Skip KJ6Y  
 International DX Convention - Golf 'Tournament' - Visalia, California - Valley Oaks MGC - April 15, 2005

Hi all the duffers,  
 Here is this years group  
 photo. Thanks again for  
 coming out to play and  
 have some fun on Friday  
 morning.

See you all next year and  
 not on the miniature golf  
 course.

73

Don N6IC







Sami N4LYD VI W6CBA Brian



Skip KJ6Y Bo N7BK Red W6AE



Elvin - JA3CZY Don - N6IC



Contest Forum, International DX Convention, Visalia, California, 16 April 2005...



Ward, NØAX, and  
the Contest Forum  
Panel demonstrated  
the new hand  
signals for the  
next WARC  
competition in  
Brazil... this  
was a great  
skit...hihi













## A few words from OH2BH

We had fun! It was nice to return Visalia after so many years! Here are a few photos to share with the gang.



The matter of young DXers securing the future of DX was brought up by Martti, OH2BH in his breakfast presentation at 2005 Visalia DX Convention. And indeed, those attending youngsters, from left Caleb, KD7RDY, Reid, K6LRB and Dominique, M0BLF were moved to the head table. On the back Reinaldo, YV5AMH and Martti, OH2BH of the YV0D fame were their proud hosts.



### OH2BH 1969:

Surely the now seasoned DXers were once young, too. This is the picture N6RC took at OH2BH in 1969. A neat Drake Line gear featured with a rotary dial telephone in the foreground. It is told that Martti has put the rotary dials to rest!



Following the Visalia DX Convention a happy gathering was organized in Saratoga at the QTH of Dick, N6RC, going back to the original meeting of N6RC and OH2BH in Helsinki in 1969. Much nostalgia was in the air during the gathering up in Saratoga Hills. From left; Dick, N6RC, Jaakko, OH1TX and Martti, OH2BH

From Saratoga Hills the party drove up to the hilltop QTH of Bob, W6RJ. No, they did not do 75M DXing but went fishing in Lake Ferrero. From left; OH2BH, OH1TX and W6RJ.



### WANT MORE PICS OF THE CONVENTION?

You can look at many more pictures from the convention at

[http://www.scdxc.org/visalia/pics\\_2005/](http://www.scdxc.org/visalia/pics_2005/)

# In The News

de URBAN

## NEW CONSUMER COMPLAINT FORM 475 APPROVED

Filing a consumer complaint with the FCC is relatively easy these days with e-mail; visit the first web address below to see what's required.

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/complaints.html>

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-05-1089A1.doc](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-05-1089A1.doc)

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## BPL TEST SITES TO BE DEPLOYED IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Staff members from San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") made a presentation to the San Diego DX Club on February 23, 2005 and announced that SDG&E plans to deploy multiple BPL test sites in San Diego County at as-yet unspecified locations. Several equipment vendors are expected to be involved, each with its own test area and frequency plan. The first system may be in place as early as June 2005, with others coming on line shortly thereafter.

SDG&E staff said they were unimpressed by early BPL equipment, but were encouraged by their December visit to Cinergy's BPL system in Cincinnati that was said to pass some 50,000 homes without creating radio interference concerns. Furthermore, they believed that Cinergy had a viable financial model for making BPL work. Lee Krevat, IT Manager in charge of strategy and planning for SDG&E, was the lead presenter.

In response, ARRL Laboratory Manager, Ed Hare, comments that while the Current Technologies equipment he says is used by Cinergy has reduced the interference potential to amateur radio operators because of frequency notching, the BPL system operates at full signal strength in other allocated spectrum, so the largest interference concerns have been shifted to other places on the dial.

Ed also points out that Cinergy uses low-band VHF signals on its overhead medium voltage lines, and HF signals on the secondary (110/220V) sides of its transformers. Nevertheless, the actual performance of each and every BPL system must be closely examined, and nothing can be taken for granted.

## UNAUTHORIZED RADIO OPERATOR ARRESTED FOR JAMMING SEVERAL GOVERNMENT FREQUENCIES

Jack Gerrisen, who has used the call KG6IRO, has been arrested on federal charges of "jamming" radio frequencies being used by the United States military, the United States Coast Guard, and other law enforcement and public safety agencies.

Five years ago, Gerritsen was convicted in state court of interfering with a police radio frequency, and he was sentenced to 38 months in prison. He was released from prison in 2003, and soon after the FCC began receiving complaints about

## GOOGLE OFFERS FREE MAPS AND LINKED SATELLITE IMAGES

Google is offering free maps to the general public, and a mouse click gives you a virtually-exact satellite image of the same area. Just visit the URL below with JavaScript enabled.

Once at the URL, double click on the location of interest to center the big map on that spot. Then zoom in on the location using the +/- bar. Finally, get a satellite photo of the area by clicking on the word "Satellite" in the upper right corner of the screen. This is a very simple and powerful site and there are many features we have not even begun to discuss.

(Continued on page 14)

<http://maps.google.com/>

## Who We Are

The SCDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is e-mailed to all club members.


Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions to the editor.

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**COMMUNICATIONS  
SERVICE COMPANY**

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### ARRESTED

his activity on the airwaves. Because of his continued unlawful radio transmissions, the FCC issued three "notices of apparent liability for forfeiture" for a total of \$52,000.

The complaint specifically alleges that he:

- interfered with, or jammed, a radio frequency being used by the Bell Gardens Police Department on November 6,

- 2003;
- interfered with a radio frequency being used by the Los Angeles City Fire Department Auxiliary Communications during a training exercise on July 24, 2004;
- interfered with a Coast Guard Auxiliary amateur operator, who was assisting the Coast Guard during a search and rescue operation on October 29, 2004;
- interfered with American Red Cross radio transmissions on January 14, 2005, while the agency was preparing for disaster relief operations at the Prado Dam; and
- caused the cancellation of Army Reserve homeland security training events on March 10, 2005 when he interfered with the Military Affiliate Radio System.

A criminal complaint filed Wednesday afternoon charges Gerritsen with a felony charge of malicious interference with a communications system operated by the United States and a misdemeanor count of transmitting radio signals without a license. The two charges carry a potential penalty of 11 years in federal prison.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, New or Renewal

Return to membership chairman: Larry Mallek 2528 Britain Way, Anaheim CA, 92801-1413

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ WORK TELEPHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**SCDXC Dues are \$18.00 per year, make checks payable to SCDXC**